Proposal to review the Forest Conservation Act, 1980

507. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to review the Forest Conservation Act of 1980; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Wildlife crime

508. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that India has become a favourite hunting ground for increasingly organized wildlife crime networks; and

(b) whether it is fact that in July 2004, 10 tiger skins, 25 leopard skins, four sackfuls of fresh tiger bones and claws of 31 tigers and leopards were seized from 11 different States across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) There are indications about the involvement of organized gangs in the wildlife crimes in India.

(b) The Central Government has information only about the seizure of 5 skins of tigers, 8 skins of leopards and 540 claws of tigers and leopards during July 2004 in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh.

Extinction of endangered wildlife

509. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: